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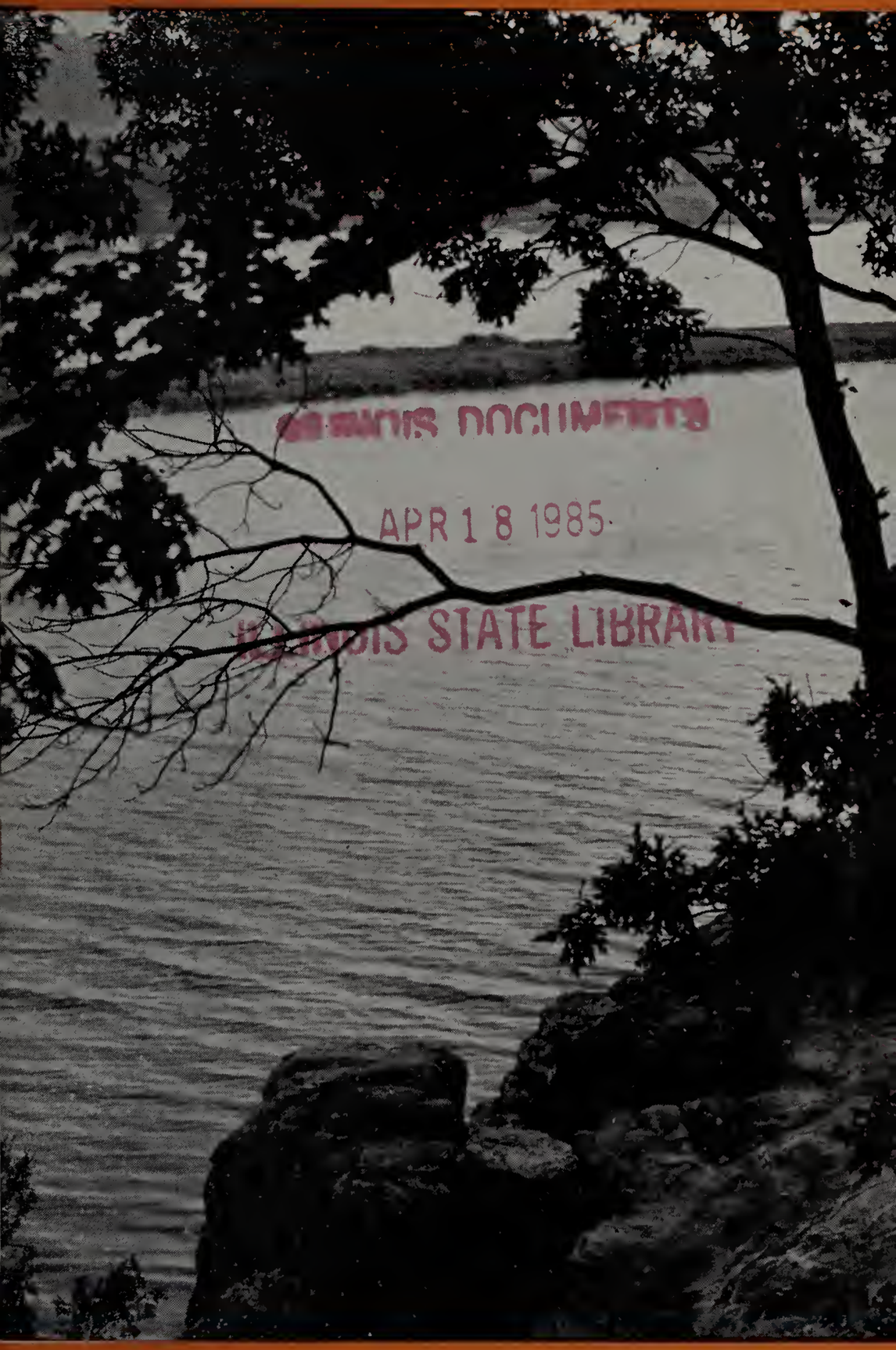
Buffalo Rock

STATE PARK



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Buffalo Rock ★

Buffalo Rock State Park, on a bluff which was once an island in the Illinois River, is four miles west of Ottawa in La Salle County. It has an area of 43 acres and was presented to Illinois in 1928 for inclusion in the State Park System.

The fortress-like sandstone bluff is 300 acres in area and the summit, 40 to 60 rods wide, is heavily wooded with oak, cedar and some pine. The Illinois River, before the Niagara broke through the heights at Lewiston, was a great lake here.

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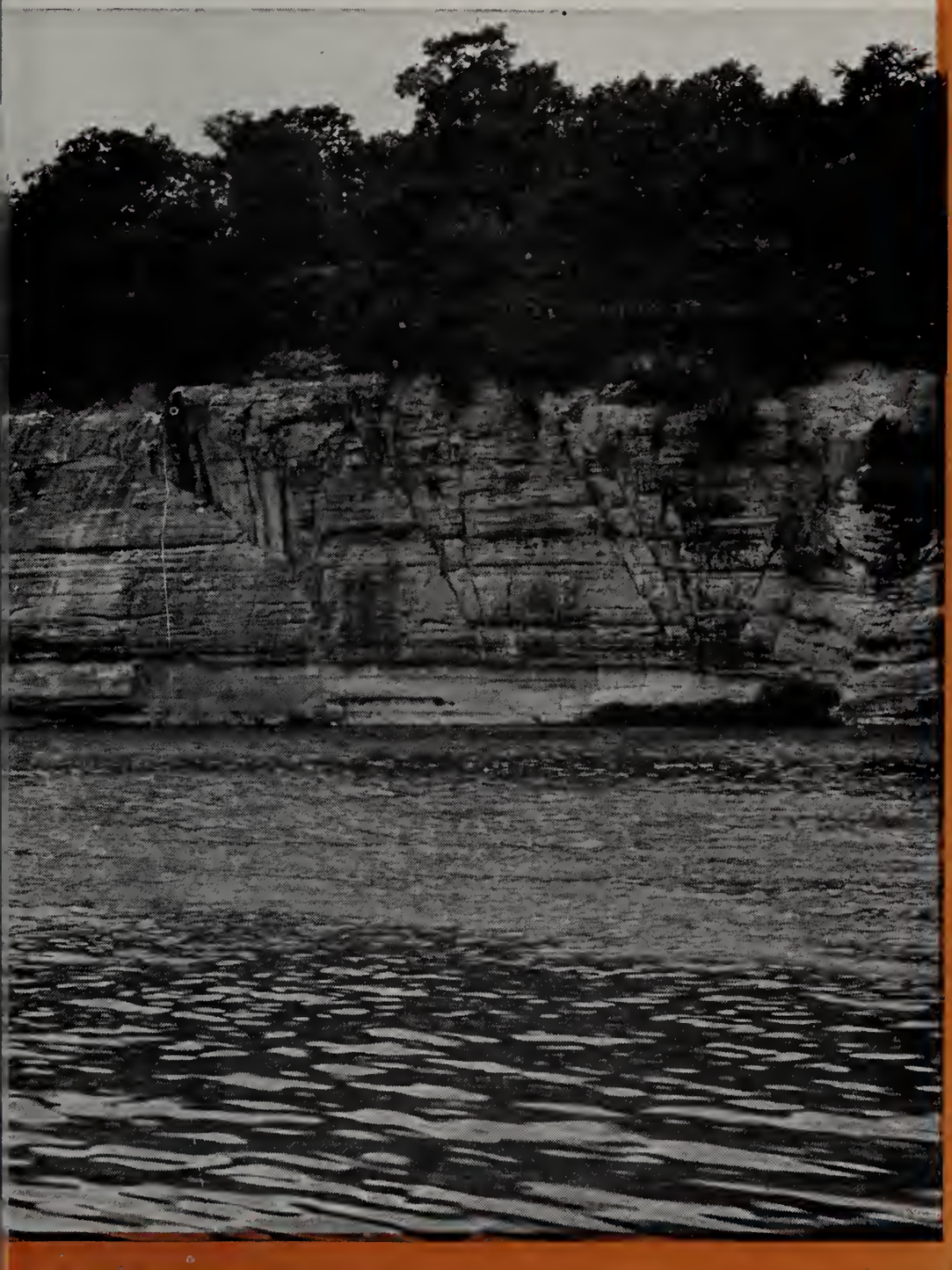
This vicinity was the home of the Illinois Indians when Marquette and Joliet made their trip up the Illinois River in 1673. Later the Illinois tribe was virtually annihilated in protracted warfare with the aggressive Iroquois. Here, also, ranged the Potawatomi, the Sauk and Foxes and other tribes which finally were supplanted by the American pioneers who turned the wilderness into a land of farms and cities.

For the convenience of visitors the State has improved a natural clearing on the summit of the rock stretching from the roadway to the riverbank, and has erected here a shelter of stone and timbers, equipped with a large fireplace. Open fireplaces for outdoor cooking are scattered through the park. There is a dock for boats at the river level.

Nearby is the Illinois and Michigan Canal Parkway and a short distance west is Starved Rock State Park. Also in La Salle County, east of the Buffalo Rock State Park near the Marseilles Lock is Illini State Park, acquired in 1934, which is becoming increasingly popular as its facilities are developed.

• Buffalo Rock, viewed from the river



● Looking out across the Illinois River

Write to the Department of Public Works and Buildings, Division of Parks and Memorials, State Capitol, Springfield, for further information concerning Illinois Parks and Memorials.

Forty-two State parks, 25 of historic interest, are of easy access from every part of the State. Lodges and cabins are an important feature of Starved Rock, Pere Marquette, White Pines Forest and Giant City State Parks. Reservations should be made with lodge managers.

Issued by
Department of Public Works and Buildings
Chas. P. Casey, Director
DIVISION OF PARKS
Ray Hubbs, Superintendent

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● Shelter house for visitors

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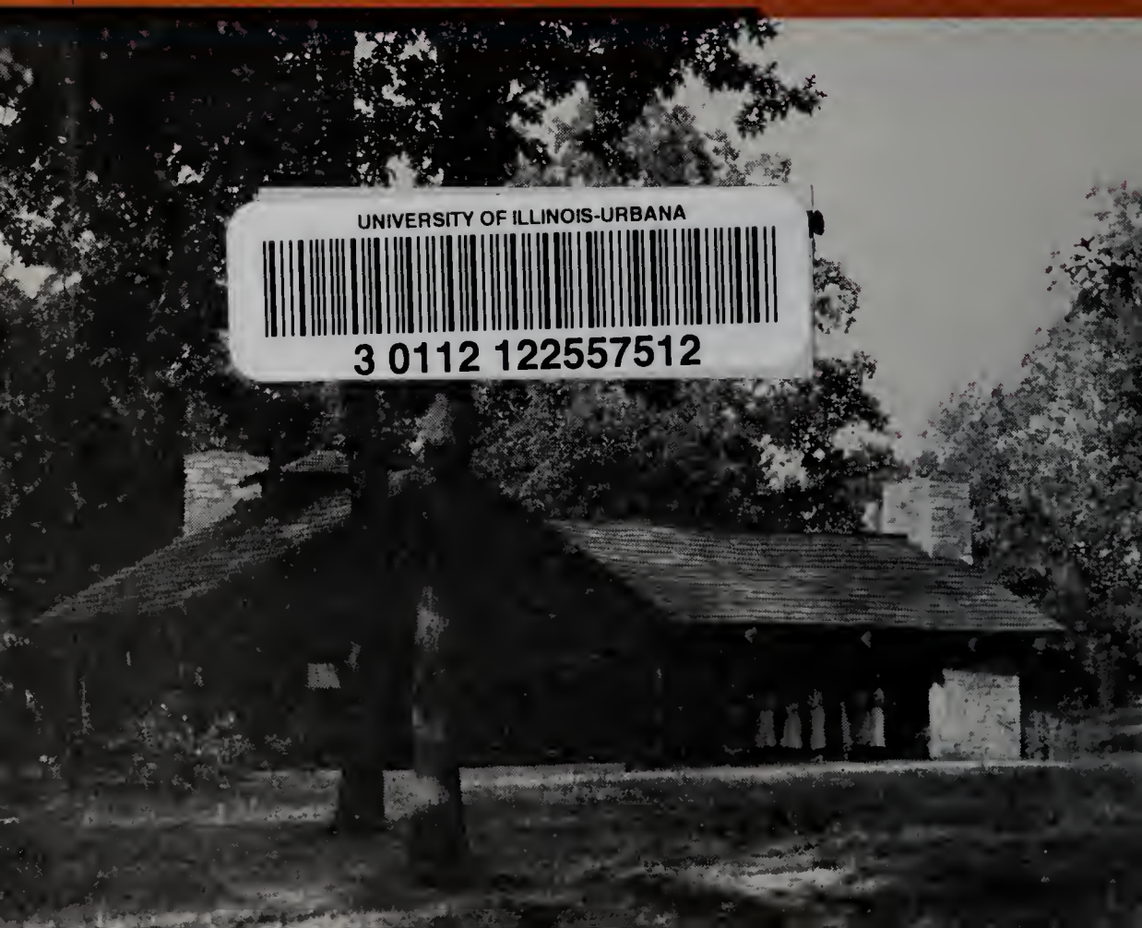

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